THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1870.

The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 23. CHICAGO, SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1870.—WITH SUPPLEMENT. NUMBER 257.

Terrible Calamity.

Portions of the Roofs of Both Tumble In With a Crash.

Eight Workmen, for a Time Buried in the Ruins of the West Wing.

A Band of Terrific Conflagration and Excitement.

Appointment of a Committee to Investigate the Cause of the Catastrophe.

Awful and Wonderful Subterfuges.

The Wing Repair.

Yesterday, at one-quarter past 2 o'clock, P. M., the roof of the north part of the west wing of the Court House caved in, and fell with a terrific crash to the floor below. The telegraphic announcement of the accident, with its exaggerations, spread like wildfire over the city, and an excitement unprecedented in the history of the community was the result. Thousands of persons rushed to the scene of the disaster, and for a time the first cheerful glimpse of the Court House in the heart of the city, and the sad cries of the wounded, filled the air. Ambulances, driver to driver, with wild rapidity, dashed to the spot. The rumor that the entire building was tumbling down, and that many persons were buried in the ruins, was believed by the excited populace. It was not an event which occurred every day, and, in the absence of anything like a correct statement of the facts, it was but natural that the wildest fancies should run riot. Even the most cool-headed and level-headed of the citizens were not free from the fear that the whole building was about to fall, and bury in its ruins hundreds of persons. Fortunately, however, the fears of the excited were not realized, and the accident, although sufficiently serious in its character, was not of the terrible nature which was at first supposed by the public.

THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

The entire roof over the Recess Court was destroyed in the central portion of the building, and the portion which remains standing is in a very dangerous condition. In the language of building contractors, the roof "has settled," or, in other words, "squatted," for a time. Believing that the entire structure was about to fall, the workmen in charge of the building, and the employés of the various offices in the building, fled in terror from the premises on the outside. Men without coats and hats, and women without bonnets, were to be seen flying in every direction, and the excitement was intense. The cause of the accident was the overloading of the roof with the weight of snow.

SCENES AFLOAT.

The moment as to the extent of the disaster had been ascertained, the work of relief commenced. Those who had been buried beneath the ruins were dug out as speedily as possible, and the wounded conveyed to their homes. The terrible calamity had the effect of uniting the people of Chicago, irrespective of party, in the work of relief. Democrats and Republicans alike joined in the work, and the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, who is a Democrat, was aided by the Chief Engineer of the Board of Public Works, who is a Republican. The Board of Public Works, the Mayor, the members of the Common Council, and the Commissioners of Public Buildings, were all on the ground. In the midst of the excitement, while the Chief Engineer of the Board of Public Works, in the absence of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, was giving orders to the firemen, the Mayor, who was standing by, suggested that the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department was the proper person to give the orders. The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, who was standing by, said that the Chief Engineer of the Board of Public Works was the proper person to give the orders, as it was connected with the building.

SCENES ASHORE.

The scene inside the Recess Court was beyond description. Looking at the scene of ruin, however, from the outside, in the language of a bystander, "it looked as though a thousand devils had got loose." Rumors were flying in every direction, and the excitement was intense. Men without coats and hats, and women without bonnets, were to be seen flying in every direction on the outside

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MARINETTE.

Mr. T. J. Kearney, in his defence before the Board of Supervisors, relied upon three points:

1. That the original agreement, as drawn himself and Caulfield, in Ogden's office, took place after the board had selected Englewood as the location for the Normal School, and after the committee had made choice of the particular spot at Englewood.

2. That the greater part of the conversations testified to by Caulfield never took place.

3. That the lot deeded to him was so defective in title, and so covered with tax sales, as to be valueless.

These points, even if true, constitute no defence. They leave the fact undisputed that he represented the location of the school at Englewood as being a benefit to Caulfield's land; that he asked for the lot, whether in jobs or in earnest is immaterial, since he followed it up by a demand for a deed; that he asked for a lot at Englewood, and, when this was refused, took a lot on the Hohesin property, and made his valuation from that; that he subsequently went for the deed, obtained it and stamped it, and placed it on record. No matter when the lot was asked for, the consideration for the change of the location of the school at Englewood, and all the rest of Caulfield's testimony might be thrown out without affecting the corrupt and nefarious character of the transaction on the part of Kearney.

But Mr. Kearney's testimony is wholly untrustworthy. Mr. Caulfield fixes the date of the first interview as having taken place "some time last spring or summer," and he further enforces his recollection of the time by saying that's, "Several days after this I noticed in the morning papers something about the school having been located at Englewood," which notice, he adds, was the first intimation he had that the location had been made. By reference to the journal of the Board of Supervisors, it appears that on the 10th of March the Committee on Selection of a Site were discharged from the subject. There was supposed to be money in the thing, and the members of the Board, generally, entered an equal chance. On the 12th the Board voted to visit all the competing sites, and thus completed the time till the 18th having been spent at Riverside. Englewood, Norwood, Blue Island, Riverside, and Gleason were all bidding. On the 19th there were several speeches, Kearney advocating Englewood. Finally Englewood was selected, by a vote of 25 to 23 for all others.

T. Kearney states that the conversation took place from the 5th to the 15th of April, which statement is wholly inconsistent with that of Caulfield, who states that he read in the paper, several days subsequent to the conversation, the fact that the school had been located. It is also inconsistent with Caulfield's other statement that, in the first conversation, when the lot was asked, Kearney, upon being informed that Caulfield owned property in Englewood, said: "Well, now I want to see something about it, and I will see you again about the location of the Normal School, and the position of the school at Englewood would be a great benefit to the property." Would the location (I name it was either) few or six months in the future of a piece of property be enough to locate the school at either place.

On Saturday the Investigating Committee took the testimony of John McMahon, who happened to be in O'Hara's office at the time of the conversation between Kearney and Caulfield. Mr. McMahon, whose reputation in the community for veracity is certainly higher than Kearney's, *confirms, in every essential particular, the testimony of Mr. Caulfield*, leaving to Kearney not even the narrow margin of excuse which he claimed for himself. And now that the transaction has been pinned at close, conclusive testimony is coming from various unexpected quarters, all harmonizing with Caulfield's statement, and reminding that of Kearney.

Mr. Caulfield executed the deed under what we think was an exaggerated sense of honor; and in this whole matter he has been an involuntary witness. He is a respectable gentleman, whose personal character has never been questioned, and he has no possible motive for inventing any part of this story. When, in all the material facts, he is sustained by Kearney himself, and in others by O'Hara and McMahon, there can be no excuse for doubting the truth of his version of the affair in any particular.

An attempt has been made to charge Mr. Kearney upon the "Citizens' Ticket," which was elected last fall. It is true that Mr. Kearney consented to be a primary meeting in the Ninth Ward for Supervisor, on the Citizens' ticket, and was elected on that ticket. But it is also true that he declined to run in the Democratic ticket, and his Democratic friends took him up because he was a good thing for Chairman of the Board, and elected him for that purpose. Kearney is a Democrat, if appears, of the Democrats, and he was elected on Democratic nominations for that office. Having been elected by the Democrats, he naturally went up the road, and, in connection with Clark, formed a combination to defeat the interest, giving all the chairmanships but one, and a majority of all the money committees in the board, to the Democratic Supervisors from the outside towns and rotten boroughs of the county.

CHRISTIANITY IN THE CONSTITUTION.

The convention recently held at Pittsburgh to consider the national obligation to recognize the Christian religion as part of the law of the land adopted a series of resolutions—affirming:

1. That civil government is an ordinance of God.

2. That nations are morally accountable to God.

3. That the moral laws under which nations are held accountable include the fuller revelation of the Divine character and will, as given in the Bible.

4. That it is the right and duty of nations, as such, no less than the individuals composing them, to worship God according to the religion of Jesus Christ.

5. That, in order to maintain and give permanency to the Christian features which have marked this nation, it is necessary to give them authoritative sanction in our organic law.

6. That the proposed amendment to the Constitution will not interfere with the rights of conscience, nor tend to unite Church and State, but will form the strongest safeguard of both the civil and religious liberty of all citizens.

7. That the movement is nothing but the assertion of the duty and right of a people who believe in the truth of Christianity to govern themselves in a Christian manner.

The amendment proposed is that to change the preamble to the constitution, so that it will read:

"We, the people of the United States (acknowledging Almighty God as the source of all authority in civil affairs, and the Lord Jesus Christ as the Ruler among the nations, through whose revelation His will as the supreme authority is made known), in order to constitute a Christian government, &c.

This is the old theory, upon which every religious despotism is founded. It asserts that certain things are true, and then denies that it is an infringement of the rights of conscience to require others to accept them. It is, doubtless, true that a large majority of the people of the United States are Christians, in the sense that they are believers in Christ, though not in the sense of observing His precepts very strictly; and, now be that that fact makes us a Christian nation. But it is by no means true that all our people are Christians. Nor it true that religious liberty consists in having that faith and doctrine embodied in our laws which the majority may profess. Religious freedom is not a matter with the control of the majority. Authority it does not rest upon the precarious tenure of the will of the majority. If it rest at all, it must be indestructible by the sole force of numbers.

The constitutions of the United States and of all the States except New Hampshire prohibit the requirement of any religious test as a qualification for office, or any trust under the United States. Under these constitutions all citizens, whether Christians or not, have been eligible to office; but under this proposed amendment no person can be eligible to any office under the National, or a State, or municipal government where an oath in support of the constitution is required, who is not a sworn adherent to the religious faith required in the Christian religion, but by the particular form of that religion which prevails. Yet the people who proposed this amendment affirmed that they did not propose to destroy by law that the religion of the majority, however, be the case or not.

REVENGE.

A GROWING spirit of vengeance, as the time draws on for the meeting of the Legislature, is worth while for the travelling by rail to consider what right it still has to exist. The occasion is called forth by the case of a Mr. Coleman against the New Haven Railroad, still pending in a Massachusetts court, the facts of which the *Weekly* proceeds to state and comment upon.

They are briefly these: About two years ago Mr. Coleman purchased at Providence a ticket for New York, which he used only as far as New Haven, preferring to make the remainder of the journey from that point by steamboat. Having retained the coupon, he presented it, a few days later, as entitling him to a return passage to New Haven, on the ground that the railroad company had agreed to carry him a given number of miles, and that he was entitled, as a fulfilment of that agreement, either to go or some that distance, and on such day or train as was convenience. The gate-keeper at the New York station, however, refused to let Mr. Coleman pass in on that coupon, and was sustained by the conductor of the train when he was applied to. Mr. Coleman secured an entrance to the car; but when the conductor came around Mr. Coleman refused to give up the ticket, and obtained it only when it was stamped it, and placed it on record. No matter when the lot was asked for, the consideration for the change of the location of the school at Englewood, and all the rest of Caulfield's testimony might be thrown out without affecting the corrupt and nefarious character of the transaction on the part of Kearney.

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THE COURT HOUSE CASUALTY.

THE fall of the roof of the new wing of the Court House, yesterday, came much more extended than at first reported. Fortunately, no loss of life has occurred. That no person was actually killed, is not due to either the wisdom or the skill of the architects, contractors, or any other persons responsible for the construction of the building. The public may have cause to congratulate themselves that this weakness was made itself known before this time, and that it was not postponed until a hundred victims were buried under the ruins. The floors of the [illegible] have [illegible] had the [illegible] of the public. The walls have been settling and breaking, and the liberal application of putty has never availed to keep from the public eye the cracks and cracks, and other indications of unsteady ruin. These were apparent in the east wing long before its walls were carried above the second story. In September last, the Supervisors undertook to investigate the affair, but the inquiry was conducted by a clique of experts in architectures, who found that there had ever been any defect.

The calamity of Saturday resulted from the insufficiency of the supports to the roof. These supports rested on brick walls [illegible] Mr. Lois asserts,—settled, thereby damaging the supports of the roof, and resulting in the fall of the latter structure. It is said that a like cause has produced a similar condition in the east wing, but to a less extent. An investigation of the whole building, including both wings, should be had at once, and the responsibility should be placed where it justly belongs. Such a proper investigation taken place last September this casualty might have been prevented. The architects of the building; and one of the committing architects, briefly dismissing the question of cracked walls, wrote to the architect in charge, "Don't worry about them." Yet the people who proposed this amendment affirmed that they did not propose to destroy by law that the religion of the majority, however, be the case or not.

REVENGE.

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THE LOSS OF THE ONEIDA.

Statements of the Survivors—Inhuman Conduct of the Officers of the Company—Inquest Pending—Public Feeling Aroused—Progress of the Official Investigations.

From the Tribune's Special Dispatches.

NEW YORK, March 12.

On Monday evening, January 24, the American mail steamer Oneida, bound from this port to New Orleans, left the dock at the foot of Canal street, North River, and steamed Sandy Hook, on the Bay of Yedo, Japan. The Oneida was an old vessel, and had been for many years employed in the coasting trade. The Company had recently changed their line, and had put on the Oneida, and also the Roanoke, new boats, and had refitted and repainted them, and had given the Oneida a new name. The Oneida was no doubt in the old vessel still hold that title in the minds of many persons. All the boys were nearly and thoroughly new.

As I was sitting at the Mendelssohn Quintette Club rehearsal, Friday evening, I suddenly myself presented with a slip of paper, on which was written what they were looking for in existing Art—a place to go back to Boston, merely for lack of support. It will not be long before I shall have got again much music as the city can afford, and the concerts of which chords in its old Germania used to derive the inspiration of glorious leaps and nimble fingers; the pastoral symphonies of Beethoven and Weir Fraser; the thorough-bass of Mozart and Wagner; the [illegible] and wife-awake Ryan; and the artistic Carl Rosa. Meanwhile, I am glad to have a right to [illegible] the old masters are allowed, in a [illegible] to hear their pieces drawn below; I think Mozart must have been a master of the [illegible] and Mendelssohn more gentle and sweet; and [illegible] the one his grimness and the other his delicious sense of [illegible]. Even if [illegible] are allowed to hear, they must suffer new and [illegible] as Father Haydn must nowsl now sit then at the [illegible] Quintette Club. Now [illegible] Chair! How [illegible] old Handel [illegible] and [illegible] that was his angelic rouse, and grow[illegible] broken English at the [illegible] of the noise of the beer-soddens crop up his surest [illegible] Bach, and [illegible] Again; from with that organ[illegible] blow all the pasto-[illegible] and [illegible] the moonlight sonata which Liszt says only three men in the world can play, and [illegible] the Ariadne, which only a man with a passionate [illegible] and breast, and a voice to match it, can sing! It is too hard a [illegible] to [illegible] Mr. B. Lang; the Boston organist, had been afflicted with a series of [illegible] [illegible] A brass-double bassoon, called the "Heliton," has been invented for the orchestra of the Philharmonic of London. [illegible] Liszt's new opera, "Dornröschen Rosenroth," was produced at the Grand Ducal Theatre, Weimar, on the 23d ult., in the presence of the Grand Duke of Baden. [illegible] has finished a new suite of his new opera "Fabiola." Lotzen is said to be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] voices by over-working. [illegible] Camille Saint-Saens, on the Parisian [illegible] on Saturday last. The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

KEARNEY'S LOT.

Second Day's Session of the Investigating Committee.

Mr. Caulfield Produces Three Witnesses to Corroborate His Statements.

What was Said at Mr. O'Hara's Office by Mr. Kearney and Others.

Mr. Caulfield Reiterates all He Has Heretofore Stated.

Interesting Testimony.

The Special Committee of the Board of Supervisors, charged with the investigation of the alleged corruption in connection with the location of the Normal school at Englewood, met at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, pursuant to adjournment. Present, Supervisors Wells, Morrison, and Stowell.

PRELIMINARY.

Supervisor WAITE. I understand the object of this meeting is, to receive a reply from Mr. Caulfield on that portion of the testimony where there is not a perfect harmony between him and Mr. Kearney's. I believe we are now ready to hear from Mr. Caulfield. Mr. Caulfield will please to recommence the examination at the point where he left off yesterday.

Mr. CAULFIELD. Yes I can repeat to it after-ward.

Supervisor MORRISON. I think I can call to my mind what we examined Mr. Kearney on yesterday, and Mr. Kearney is here, and can correct anything I may forget. I think, Mr. Chairman, the last question I asked Mr. Caulfield was, Did you recognize that Mr. Kearney?

Mr. CAULFIELD. Did you recognize that Mr. Kearney?

Supervisor MORRISON. Yes, sir. I then found Mr. Kearney and Mr. O'Hara, and Mr. Caulfield, in the adjoining office [indicating the direction], and I do not remember whether I left Worthley with you or not. I went in there, and found Mr. Kearney, Mr. O'Hara, Mr. Caulfield, and Mr. Cowles, who were present when the conversation took place between Mr. Caulfield and myself. I then left the room, and left Mr. Caulfield there. I then went to the Tribune office, and found Mr. Kearney and Mr. O'Hara, and Mr. Caulfield, and Mr. Cowles, and I left Mr. Kearney there with Mr. Caulfield, Mr. O'Hara, and Mr. Cowles. I then went to the Tribune office, and found Mr. Kearney, Mr. O'Hara,

Advice from Abroad.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BOARD WANTED.

SITUATIONS WANTED—FEMALE.

HELP WANTED—FEMALE.

SITUATIONS WANTED—MALE.

HELP WANTED—MALE.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

TO RENT—HOUSES.

TO RENT—STORES AND OFFICES.

WANTED—TO RENT.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

SUBURBAN.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE WANTED.

AGENTS WANTED.

FINANCIAL.

CLAIRVOYANTS.

PERSONAL.

INSTRUCTION.

LOST AND FOUND.

SEWING MACHINES.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PARTNERS WANTED.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

TO LEASE.

WANTED—TO EXCHANGE.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

MACHINERY.

OHIO.

Horrible Murder at Mansfield—Mother Exploded at Wooster—Seven Persons Killed.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MANSFIELD, March 18.

Early yesterday morning the terrible tragedy that Mary J. Lambert, a seamstress, about 35 years of age, was murdered in her room at No. 4 Adams street, by Albert Snyder, who lived in the same house. The murderer, after committing the deed, went to the room of Mrs. Lambert's mother, Mrs. Sarah Lambert, and informed her that he had killed her daughter. The old lady, who is 70 years of age, was terribly frightened, and, dressing herself hastily, went to the room of her daughter, and found her lying on the floor in a pool of blood. She was dead. Mrs. Lambert then went to the room of Snyder, and found him lying on the bed, with his throat cut from ear to ear. He was also dead. Snyder was a married man, and has been living apart from his wife for some time. He was a man of violent temper, and was frequently under the influence of liquor. Mrs. Lambert was a quiet, industrious woman, and was highly respected by her neighbors. The murder was committed with a razor, which was found in the room with the dead man. Snyder was a native of Germany, and was about 40 years of age.

NEW YORK.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, March 18.

A Movement has been commenced here to raise a fund for the Chicago sufferers. The subscription list is headed by Jay Gould with $5,000. The subscription will be opened to-morrow morning, and a meeting numerously attended by General Sherman, General Sheridan, and other distinguished citizens, will be held in the evening.

THE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

There is some expectation that the Military Committee will report a bill to-day or to-morrow to release Central Pacific from its obligations to the Government. Should Congress consent, they say Chicago, New York, Albany, Buffalo, and Boston will be connected by the great Central system, and the Union Pacific will be relieved from its present unfavorable position. Should Congress refuse to release the Central Pacific, the latter will be compelled to build a road to Ogden, and the Union Pacific will be compelled to build a road to Salt Lake, and the Central Pacific